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# *The University of Dayton*

## *News Release*

### **HEALING POWER OF MAGIC DISCUSSED AT UD**

**DAYTON, Ohio, October 8, 1986**--Magic and medicine combine to make a doubly effective healing tool, according to Cindy and Kevin Spencer, professional magicians. The University of Dayton will be the local link to the national "Healing Power of Magic" teleconference on Thursday, October 23, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., when the two magicians will discuss how to integrate magic into traditional kinds of therapy.

The program is endorsed by the American Occupational Therapy Association and is based on the concepts of magician David Copperfield's Project Magic, which he developed at the Freeman Center for Diagnostic and Rehabilitation Medicine in California.

The Spencers will explore ways magic can promote physical healing by enhancing visual and perceptual skills, concentration, motor control, and dexterity, and promote psychosocial healing by developing problem-solving and interpersonal skills, self-esteem, and assertiveness.

Dayton occupational therapist Jan Ashton, a practitioner of Project Magic with mentally retarded children and young adults, will be on hand for discussion and consultation. The audience also will be able to participate in a question-and-answer period via satellite with the Spencers.

The conference fee is \$65, which includes a magic kit, or \$45 without the kit. Space is limited, so early registration is encouraged. Fees are non-refundable after October 16. For more information and registration, call UD Continuing Education at 229-2347.